

SEC COMMENTS COLLECTION

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COMMENTERWORDS

We the people of North Branch Antrim respectfully ask the current s.e.c. to validate the decisions made by the past s.e.c., and protect the steep -slope water-shed from the total destruction that will occur if industrial wind turbines are allowed in this fragile and important water-shed. This area has been recommended for protection by the N.H. Fish & Game dept. with their course filter water study, that recognizes the importance of the steep-slope water-shed that feeds Robb reservoir, the North Branch river, Steels pond, Franklin Peirce lake, Williard pond, Gregg lake, Great Brook, and countless bogs & wetlands. Also the Governors Fresh water protection act. This area is home, not only to the people that live here, but to an intact ecosystem that supports all indigenous species. The natural World has a right to exist without the destructive forces of in-humane beings. The North Branch of the Contoocook River has two hydro-electric plants on it that have been producing electricity for over 35 years! This steep-slope water-shed has already sacrificed the ability of indigenous fish like Salmon to migrate & spawn in their birth-right, the Salmon Brook. There is now more destruction to the surface of the Earth by man than by natural causes such as earth quakes, floods, hurricanes etc. according to the Miner institute, this is unacceptable and irreversible. Once this or any area is destroyed there is no restoring it to its natural state. The damage is done! The public Utilities comm. states that the first objective is to reduce consumption. We all have to do our part in this objective, as we are 4% of the worlds population and we use 25% of the worlds resources, this is an unsustainable equation. We would be better off if all buildings had to provide 25% of their own power from solar or small wind, which is more efficient and less destructive. Industrial wind only runs at 17% efficiency, that is unless they make them taller and the blades longer, then they can get to 26%. The tallest Redwood is 325 feet, the industrial turbines 520 feet! The Historic importance of this area is also being denied. The town line between Hillsboro & the North Branch is the historic birthplace of N.H.'s only President, Franklin Peirce, this is within two miles of the first turbine! Within a half mile is a mortar-less double stone arch bridge that was part of the Concord to Keene stage-coach rd. other-wise known, I believe, as the Kings High-way. We have many Historic colonial era buildings including the old Tavern near the Franklin Peirce birthplace, the Steels homestead, the antique shop and many others that are within site of the first turbine! Tourism is the first or second economic driver for the state, people come to rest their weary eyes from the man -made sky-line to the south. Imagine spending a day climbing mount Monadnock (the most climbed mnt. in the world), anticipating a pristine view, only to find that the scenery is being dominated by man-made, objects that high-jack the once stunning & serene view. Why bother coming to N.H. if every where you go you can't escape mans hideous blight! When I was growing up along the Contoocook River in the late 1960's and early 70's, there were no Eagles seen then, for they were on the brink of disaster, the river was polluted with sewage, and the chemical waste from mills. We could not fish, or swim there, and neither could the Eagle, who depends on the fish and water birds to feed its young. Now we have Eagles back in their Historic place on the river, it is a miraculous recovery, but now again their home is under threat again by man. Eagles fly over Tuttle mnt., Robb mnt., and Williard mnt. every day in search of fish & fowl to feed their young. They need at least 4 or 5 catches a day when they are rearing young. They are still threatened by lead and other heavy metals, and their place is still precarious. See the state of Wyoming vs. industrial wind turbines killing Golden Eagles. I have had several people tell me they have seen Golden Eagles in Antrim! Again I reiterate that the Tuttle mnt., Robb mnt., and Williard mnt. steep-slope water-shed is a totally inappropriate place for an industrial wind site! As far as jobs, we are @ 5% or less unemployment rate, so if people want to work, there are jobs. As far as energy goes, the hydro Quebec line is poised to come in, and we have alternatives like burning trash cleanly with Plasma technology, Waste Management is producing electricity at this time with this tech. Also we can put small wind and solar everywhere, if we put the Federal money towards tax credits and other incentives. There are many reasons to get off the grid system, and they all have to do with security. The grid can be taken down by wind, floods, lighting, snow, ice, hacking, a squirrel can take down the grid! This is an archaic system designed to keep the populous dependent, yet it is not dependable. This is a system that puts corporate interests before Human interest, and as long as green paper is more important than life on Earth we are doomed. Respectfully submitted, Earths faithful servant, Sarah Gorman